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NEW SPECIES OF CHAETOCNEMA AND OTHER
CHRYSOMELIDS (COLEOPTERA) FROM
THE WEST INDIES.

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The present paper is in part an attempt to straighten out the identity of species of *Chaetocnema* in the West Indies that in the past have been labelled indiscriminately as *Chaetocnema apri-caria* (Suffrian). The rest of the paper is made up of the description of new species collected by P. J. Darlington.

DICOELOTRACHELUS, n. gen.

Elongate oblong, small, (3-4.5 mm.), yellow brown beetles with blue or bronzy green elytra, usually coarsely and densely punctate above, the pronotum with a deep round hole on either side near the middle. Elytra covered with fine pale pubescence.

Head long and narrowed in lower front, the antennae inserted half way down head; tubercles above the antennal base distinctly marked but not prominent; interocular space usually a little more than half the width of the head; occiput and vertex rugosely or deeply punctate; color yellow brown, in two species, with a dark occipital spot. Antennae in one of the three species extending almost to the middle of the elytra, in the others not quite so long, rather heavy; the first two joints wider than the third, the second almost equal to third, third not quite so long as fourth, the remainder approximately equal. Prothorax broader than long, with sides arcuate, a very small tooth at anterior and basal angles, basal margin somewhat sinuate over the scutellum in two of the species; disc with a small deep hole on either side about halfway down; the surface coarsely or rugosely punctate, sometimes polished in places, with a more or less developed transverse depression across the middle; color yellow brown with darker lateral and median shadings in two species. Scutellum well rounded at the tip, somewhat pubescent. Elytra broader than the prothorax, elongate oblong with prominent humeri, a deep intrahumeral sulcus and a transverse depression before the middle and in two species another less marked one behind the middle; in these two species a rounded callosity at the apical curve; surface lustrous blue or bronzy green, coarsely and densely punctate and with a fine silky pubescence. Epipleura broad at base and gradually narrowing and disappearing before the apex. Body beneath finely pubescent, anterior coxal cavities open, legs moderately long, femora robust, tibiae unarmed, claws toothed. (δ is two, $\kappa\omicron\lambda\lambda\omicron$ s hole, $\tau\rho\acute{\alpha}\chi\eta\lambda\omicron$ s neck, i e. thorax.)

Genotype.—*Dicoelotrachelus darlingtoni*, n. sp.

Distribution.—Island of Hispaniola.

This genus is not very closely related to any North American one known to me. It belongs among the Galerucinae, probably near *Trirhabda*, having the anterior coxal cavities open, the tibiae unarmed, the claws toothed, the epipleura extending well down the elytra, and the antennae filiform with the 3d and 4th joints approximately equal, the 4th being only a trifle the longer. In its long parallel elytra, as well as in their pubescence and coloration, it resembles the metallic-colored species of *Trirhabda* but it has not a trace of vittation or pale elytral margins. The simple bowed aedeagus is like that found in *Galerucella*, *Monoxia*, and *Trirhabda*. The presence of two deep pits on the prothorax distinguishes the genus from any other group I have seen among the Galerucinae.

***Dicoelotrachelus darlingtoni*, n. sp.**

Fig. 12.

Elongate oblong, about 4.5 mm. long, coarsely punctate, yellow brown with shining green elytra having a bronzy or rosy lustre and with a fine silky pubescence; pronotum with median and lateral dark shadings.

Head coarsely and rugosely punctate down to the tubercles, these not prominent but distinct; often with a dark spot on occiput, dark shadings on sides below the antennal base and a dark labrum, face elongate and narrowed towards the mouth. Antennae extending below the humeri, second and third joints almost equal and shorter than the fourth, outer joints gradually growing wider and subequal; pale yellow brown with the apex of each joint tending to be dark. Prothorax not quite a third wider than long, with sides rounded, basal margin nearly straight, a small seta-bearing tooth at each corner; surface densely and coarsely punctate, and midway on each side a small round hole; surface between punctures alutaceous; a poorly marked median transverse depression; color yellow brown with dark shadings on sides and a median dark line. Scutellum pale yellow brown, rounded at the apex, pubescent. Elytra wider than prothorax, elongate oblong, a long curving intrahumeral depression and a transverse depression before and after the middle, and on apical curve a rounded prominence; surface densely and confluent punctate, thereby forming irregular transverse ridges; with fine and moderately long pale silken pubescence; color lustrous green, shining with bronzy or rosy lustre. Body beneath reddish brown, darker on prosternum, finely and lightly pubescent. Legs reddish brown, tibiae without spines, tarsal claws toothed. Length 4.1-4.5 mm., width 1.9-2mm.

Type.—Male and 1 paratype (male), Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25241.

Type locality.—Loma Rucilla and mountains north, alt. 5-8000 ft., Dominican Republic, collected in June, 1938, by P. J. Darlington.

Other localities.—Valle Nuevo, southeast of Constanza, Dominican Republic, ca. 7000 ft., and cloud forest, vicinity of

Valle Nuevo, ca. 6000 ft., all collected in August, 1938, by P. J. Darlington.

Remarks.—This species is named in honor of Mr. Darlington, who collected all three species of the genus.

***Dicoelotrachelus depilatus*, n. sp.**

Fig. 10.

Elongate oblong, about 4 mm. long, yellow brown, with a dark spot on occiput, dark median and lateral shadings on pronotum and lustrous bronzy elytra, coarsely punctate, elytra with silken pubescence.

Head long and narrowed towards the mouth, yellow brown with dark spot on occiput, dark shadings below antennae and dark labrum, upper part of head down to the tubercles densely and coarsely punctate. Antennae not reaching the middle of the elytra, yellow brown with the tip of the 7th and 11th and all of the 8, 9, and 10th joints dark. 2nd and 3rd joints about equal in length and shorter than 4th, rest subequal, outer joints gradually becoming wider. Prothorax about a third wider than long with arcuate sides, a small seta-bearing pore at each corner and a nearly straight basal margin; surface densely and coarsely punctate, the interstices alutaceous; a round hole on either side about halfway down; yellow brown with dark sides and a dark median stripe. Scutellum pale with dark edges, pubescent, rounded at apex. Elytra elongate oblong with prominent humeri and well marked intrahumeral sulcus, a transverse depression before and one after the middle; surface lustrous bronzy, densely and coarsely punctate, and with a fine silken pubescence easily rubbed off. Body beneath pale yellow brown with darker prosternum, finely pubescent, femora and tibiae with darker rings and shadings. Length 4.1 mm.: width 1.6 mm.

Type.—Male, Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25242.

Type locality.—La Visita and vicinity, La Selle Range, Haiti, 5-7000 ft. alt., collected Sept. 18-25, 1934, by P. J. Darlington.

Remarks.—Only one specimen, a male, is known. Unfortunately, when it was being cleaned, the elytral hairs rubbed off. It closely resembles *D. darlingtoni*, but has a differently shaped prothorax and differently colored antennae.

***Dicoelotrachelus brevicollis*, n. sp.**

Fig. 11.

Oblong, about 3.5 mm. long, yellow brown, with shining violet blue elytra having in basal half pale margins and sutural edges, elytra coarsely punctate, with fine pubescence.

Head elongate, coarsely and rugosely punctate over occiput to the tubercles, entirely pale. Antennae entirely pale, not extending quite to the middle of the elytra, 3rd joint a little shorter than 4th, remainder subequal. Prothorax about twice as wide as long, with arcuate sides, a small tooth at each corner, basal margin joining lateral at an obtuse angle; disc with a transverse depression

across the middle terminated at either end by a round hole, this depression with a few coarse punctures, the rest of the pronotum only finely and inconspicuously punctate, and shining yellow brown. Scutellum pale. Elytra wider than prothorax, with prominent humeri and long deep intrahumeral depression, another transverse depression before the middle; surface densely punctate and with a pale, fine silken pubescence; lustrous blue violet with side margin and epipleura as far as the apical curve and basal half of the sutural edges yellow, apex dark. Body beneath and legs entirely pale, lightly pubescent. Length 3.5 mm., width 1.7 mm.

Type.—Female, Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25243.

Type locality.—Foothills of Cordillera Central, south of Santiago, Dominican Republic, collected in June, 1938, by P. J. Darlington.

Remarks.—The shorter, differently shaped prothorax and blue elytra make this species at first glance quite unlike the other two, but the peculiar deep holes in the prothorax and the densely punctate and pubescent elytra show its relationship.

Pseudoepitrix hispaniolae, n. sp.

Fig. 1.

Elongate, about 2 mm. long, light yellow brown, shining, prothorax very finely and sparsely punctate, a little more so in the basal depression, elytra with striate punctation, more pronounced at the base.

Head entirely pale yellow brown, polished, rounded, nearly impunctate over occiput, a line running across vertex above tubercles, lower front below antennal bases smooth with a slight depression. Interocular space half as wide as head. Antennae long, extending below the middle of the elytra, entirely pale, 3rd and 4th joints not quite so long as 5th. Prothorax a third broader than long with only slightly curved sides, a small seta-bearing tooth at each corner; basal margin a little sinuate, a wide, well marked depression across basal fourth. Surface polished, finely and densely punctate, the punctures becoming a little thicker in basal depression. Scutellum polished, sub-triangular. Elytra considerably wider than prothorax with prominent humeri, a long intrahumeral depression and large basal callosity between the humeri and scutellum. Punctuation striate and well marked, although not so deep towards the apex; surface shining, entirely light yellow brown. Body beneath shining brown, abdomen deeper brown with fine pubescence. Legs pale, tibiae not grooved, first tarsal joint on hind legs long. Length 2.2–2.4 mm.; width 1.2–1.3 mm.

Type.—Male, Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25244.

Type locality.—Cloud forest, vicinity of Valle Nuevo, Dominican Republic, about 6000 ft., collected in August, 1938, by P. J. Darlington.

Remarks.—One other specimen was collected by Darlington,

on Loma Rucilla and mountains north, in August, 1938, at 5-8000 ft., Dominican Republic. Both specimens are males. They differ from the Porto Rican species, *P. hoffmani* Bryant, in being more robust and wider. The eyes in *hoffmani* appear more prominent and the groove behind the tubercles is an inverted V, while in *P. hispaniolae* it is straight across between the eyes. The punctation on the base of the prothorax is not so dense as in *P. hoffmani*. *P. suffriani* Jac. from St. Vincent has differently colored antennae and *P. trinitatis* Bryant from Trinidad appears to be darker and with dark varicolored antennal joints. All four species are very closely related. The aedeagus of *P. hispaniolae* is quite different from that of *P. hoffmani*.

***Pseudoepitrix jamaicensis*, n. sp.**

Fig. 3.

Elongate, about 2 mm. long, pale yellow brown, faintly shining, prothorax very densely punctate, elytra striate-punctate.

Head entirely pale yellow brown, smoothly rounded over occiput, not very shiny, rather alutaceous, a line running across above the frontal tubercles and between the eyes, interocular space half width of head. Antennae extending below the middle of the clytra, gradually deepening in color from the pale yellow brown basal joints to darker brown from the 5th joint, 3rd joint a little shorter than the 4th, and 4th not quite so long as 5th. Prothorax only a little broader than long, with almost straight sides a little contracted towards the base, a tiny seta-bearing tooth at each corner; surface very densely and finely punctate, only faintly shining, and under high magnification alutaceous, basal sulcus well marked. Scutellum triangular. Elytra wider than prothorax, with prominent humeri, long intrahumeral sulcus and a callosity between this and scutellum; the striate punctures stronger near the base and becoming faint at apex, surface moderately shining, entirely pale yellow brown. Body beneath pale with abdomen sometimes darker brown. Legs pale, tarsi deeper in coloring. Length 2.3-2.9 mm.; width 1.1-1.3 mm.

Type.—Male and 1 paratype (female), Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25245, 1 paratype (male) in National Museum, Cat. No. 54185.

Type locality.—Whitefield Hall, Blue Mts., Jamaica, ca. 4500 ft. alt. collected Aug. 13-20, 1934, by P. J. Darlington.

Other localities.—One other specimen, a female, was taken by Darlington on the Main Range, Blue Mts., Jamaica, alt. 5-7388 ft., Aug. 17-19, 1934.

Remarks.—This is a little longer and more slender than *P. hispaniolae*, with much more densely punctate pronotum and larger punctures on the elytra. It is not so shiny as *P. hispaniolae*. The prothorax is more nearly quadrate. It differs from the Porto Rican species, *P. hoffmani* Bryant, in its more densely punctate pronotum and in not having the oblique line

running from the tubercles back to the eye. It differs from *P. suffriani* Jac. and *P. trinitatis* Bryant in not having conspicuously bicolored antennal joints. *P. trinitatis* also has an impunctate pronotum.

***Chaetocnema plicipennis*, n. sp.**

Fig. 2.

Ovate, about 2.5 mm. long, shining aeneous black with reddish brown antennae and legs, the hind femora dark; prothorax densely punctate, elytra with striate punctation, and on each side in the female, at least, two lateral folds.

Head smoothly rounded over occiput with feebly shining alutaceous surface and fine sparse punctures; entirely dark except the slightly paler brown mouthparts; frontal tubercles not marked; interocular space about half the width of the head. Antennae not reaching the middle of the elytra, deep reddish brown, first two joints thicker and longer than third and fourth. Prothorax not quite twice as wide as long with arcuate sides and rounded basal margin, smoothly convex; surface finely alutaceous, shining, and covered with dense distinct punctures. Elytra with strong striate punctation, shining aeneous, the small humeri distinctly marked by an intrahumeral sulcus; a slightly elevated basal callosity near the scutellum, and on either side of the elytra, two well marked lateral folds, the one next to the margin running from below the humerus to the apical narrowing, the upper one not beginning quite so near the humerus. Body beneath black, alutaceous, shining, and without distinct punctures, and with fine pubescence. Legs, except the aeneous hind femora, reddish or yellowish brown. Length 2.4-2.7 mm.; width 1.3-1.6 mm.

Type.—Female, and one paratype, also a female, Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25246. One paratype, a female, in the U. S. National Museum, Cat. No. 54182.

Type locality.—Valle Nuevo, southeast of Constanza, Dominican Republic, collected in August, 1938, by P. J. Darlington.

Remarks.—The two well marked folds on the sides of the elytra of this species distinguish it from others. This feature may not be so pronounced in the male, which has not yet been collected.

***Chaetocnema laticeps*, n. sp.**

Fig. 4.

Oblong oval, about 2 mm. long, densely punctate, shining aeneous black with a rosy or bluish lustre, antennae, tibiae and tarsi reddish brown; interocular space unusually wide.

Head alutaceous, finely and rather densely punctate, interocular space about two-thirds the width of the head. Antennae not extending much below the humeri. Prothorax about a third wider than long, densely and distinctly punctate, with a well marked row of punctures along the basal margin. Elytra lustrous, often with a rosy light, the rows of punctures deep and well marked to the apex. Body beneath shining, segments of the abdomen distinctly punctate, the first and last being particularly well covered. Femora usually deeper brown, tibiae and tarsi paler. Length 1.7-2 mm.; width 1-1.2 mm.

Type.—Male and one paratype (female) Museum of Comparative Zoology Type No. 25247. One paratype in the U. S. National Museum, Cat. No. 54189.

Type locality.—Trou Caiman, Haiti, collected Sept. 4, 1934, by M. Bates.

Other localities.—3 specimens collected at Lake Guánica, Porto Rico, May 31, 1938, by P. J. Darlington.

Remarks.—The unusually broad head and wide interocular space as well as the punctate upper and lower surface of this species are its most distinctive characters.

***Chaetocnema perplexa*, n. sp.**

Fig. 5.

Ovate, about 1.7 mm. long, shining black with an aeneous lustre, antennae and legs, except the hind femora, pale yellowish brown; pronotum densely punctate, elytra broad and without depressions.

Head alutaceous, a small group of punctures on either side near the eye; interocular space about half the width of the head. Prothorax nearly twice as wide as long, the sides slightly curved and only a little narrowed anteriorly, the basal margin somewhat sinuate over the scutellum, surface alutaceous, densely and distinctly punctate. Elytra broad, without any transverse depression, and deeply striate-punctate, the interstices forming small ridges noticeable on the sides, slightly alutaceous. Body beneath finely punctate, shining dark brown. Hind femora dark, rest of legs paler brown. Length 1.4–1.8 mm.; width .7–1 mm.

Type and 8 paratypes, U. S. N. M. Cat. No. 54183, one paratype in the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Type locality.—Cayamas, Cuba, collected by C. F. Baker.

Other localities.—Soledad, Mina Carlida, Trinidad Mts., Caimito, Baracoa, Havana, Hírradura, Central Manatí, Oriente Province, Majay, Santiago de las Vegas, Central Moron, Camagüey, all in Cuba.

Remarks.—This species so closely resembles the North American species, *Chaetocnema confinis* Cr., that I am unable to distinguish the two except by dissection. The aedeagi are not alike. Unfortunately although there are many specimens, there are very few males in any collection. Besides the Cuban specimens, there are many from other islands of the West Indies,—Porto Rico, Santo Domingo, and Bermuda,—that are also indistinguishable from the North American *confinis* in external characters. In these cases, however, there are no male specimens. One male from Jamaica has a differently shaped aedeagus from either the North American *confinis* or Cuban *perplexa*. The lack of male specimens has prevented me from arriving at any conclusion about the specific standing of these, but I suspect that there may be a different race in each of the islands. Three collectors have taken it on *Convolvulus*.

This species has been confused in collections with *Chaetocnema apricaria* (Suffrian). *Chaetocnema perplexa*, however, is a broad, ovate insect, deep black in coloring and without the transverse elytral depression found in *Chaetocnema apricaria*. It must be a very abundant species as there are many specimens of it in all the collections from the West Indies.

***Chaetocnema elachia*, n. sp.**

Fig. 9.

Oblong oval, about 1.5 mm. long, shining deep brownish black with legs, except the dark hind femora, and antennae paler; head and prothorax alutaceous, the latter very finely and not densely punctate.

Head smooth, alutaceous, two or three punctures on either side near the eye; interocular space a little more than half the width of the head. Antennae pale reddish yellow, not extending much below the humeri. Prothorax nearly a third wider than long, with arcuate sides, surface alutaceous with exceedingly minute and not dense punctures, a row of deeper punctures along the basal margin. Elytra not depressed and with well defined striate punctures, shining. Body beneath dark brown, shining, abdomen finely punctate. Length 1.3-1.7 mm.; width .7-.9 mm.

Type.—Male and 4 paratypes, U. S. N. M. Cat. No. 54184. One paratype in the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Type locality.—Vieques I., Porto Rico, collected in Feb. 1899 by August Busck.

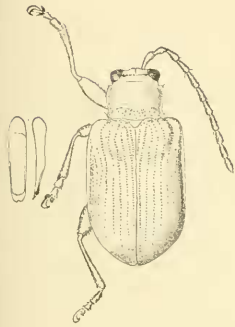
Other localities.—Rio Piedras, Porto Rico, collected July 25, 1912, by T. H. Jones on leaves of *Ipomoea*.

Remarks.—This species closely resembles *Chaetocnema obesula* Lec. from Cuba and North America, but has a differently shaped prothorax which under high magnification is seen to be finely punctate. In *obesula* the pronotum appears nearly impunctate or with the punctures obsolete. There is a slight difference, too, in the elytral punctation. The aedeagus is acutely tipped in the Porto Rico species, and broad at the tip in *obesula*. Jacoby, in his description of *Chaetocnema nana* from Grenada, writes that there is no trace of a row of basal punctures on the pronotum, which are well marked in *elachia*. The thorax in his species appears to be wider also.

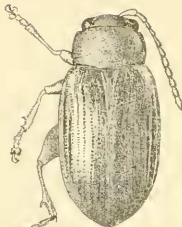
***Chaetocnema apricaria* (Suffrian).**

Fig. 6.

Chaetocnema apricaria (Suffrian) has been confused in collections with other species of *Chaetocnema* closely resembling it. It is an oblong oval species, usually deep reddish brown or darker and often with an aeneous lustre, and with paler antennae and forelegs. Its distinctive character is a transverse depression in the basal half of the elytra. The head is punctate on either side of the vertex and the pronotum densely punctate. The



1 *Pseudoepitrix hispaniolae*



2 *Chaetocnema plicipennis*



3 *Pseudoepitrix jamaicensis*



4 *Chaetocnema laticeps*



5 *Cperplexa* 6 *Capricaria Suffr*



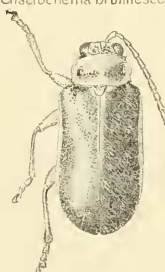
7 *Chaetocnema brunneicornis* Hott.



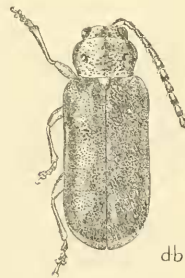
8 *Cobesula Lec* 9 *Celachia*



10 *Dicoelotrachelus depilatus*



11 *Dicoelotrachelus brevicollis*



12 *Dicoelotrachelus darlingtoni*

aedeagus is quite acutely tipped. It is represented in the National Museum collection by specimens from Cuba only,—Cayamas, Mina Carlota, Trinidad Mts. Darlington has collected it at Soledad, Cuba.

***Chaetocnema brunnescens* Horn.**

Fig. 7.

Chaetocnema brunnescens, described by Horn from Key West, Florida, where it was collected by Schwarz, appears to be a West Indian species. Specimens are in the National Museum collection and the Museum of Comparative Zoology from Arthurs Town, Cat Island, Bahamas; La Sardinero, Daredo, and Boquironi (collected on *Ginora rohrii*, Lythraceae), Porto Rico; Magen Bay and Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; and 8 miles up the Macoris River, and Barahona, Dominican Republic. W. A. Hoffman has collected it on mangrove, which may very well be its native foodplant.

It is paler brown than the other species, and has a greenish metallic lustre and a conspicuously punctate head. It is larger and more elongate than the other West Indian species of *Chaetocnema*, except *plicipennis*.

***Chaetocnema obesula* Lec.**

Fig. 8.

Chaetocnema obesula, described by LeConte from Schwarz's collection at Lake Ashby and Baldwin, Florida, has been sent to me by S. C. Bruner, who reports it as common in the rice fields of Cuba. In Cuba it has been collected at the following localities: Central Francisco, Camagüey; Guipuzcoa; 14 miles north of Santiago (on sugar cane); Baragúa; Aguacate; Havana; Central Palma, Oriente Province; St. Tomás, Zapata; Central Morón, Camagüey; Banes. In Santo Domingo it has been collected at San Pedro de Macoris, 8 miles up the Macoris River, La Romana Central, and Duarte. In Santo Domingo it has been collected on sugar cane. There are specimens in the National Museum collection sent from the Louisiana Experiment Station, taken on sugar cane, but the exact locality is unknown.

Suffrian earlier described *Chaetocnema minutissima* in his work on the Cuban Chrysomelidae, but gave Venezuela as the locality. His brief description fits this species very well but it seems inadvisable to adopt his name, in view of the locality given, without examining authentic specimens. Horn describes his *Chaetocnema ectypa* as closely resembling *C. obesula*, but *ectypa* is a longer and more slender beetle with fine punctation on the pronotum. In addition, the aedeagus is quite unlike that of *obesula*.
